

WEST

L4: Entry 1 of 425

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TITLE: Microencapsulated pigment, production process therefor, aqueous dispersion and ink jet recording ink

Detail Description Paragraph (234):

[0314] The term "solid wetting agent" as used herein means a water-soluble substance which has a water-retaining function and is solid at ambient temperature (25.degree. C.). Preferred solid wetting agents include saccharides, saccharide derivatives such as sugar alcohols, hyaluronic acid salts, trimethylolpropane, and 1,2,6-hexanetriol. The saccharides include monosaccharides, disaccharides, oligosaccharides (including trisaccharides and tetrasaccharides), and polysaccharides. Examples of the saccharides are glucose, mannose, fructose, ribose, xylose, arabinose, galactose, aldonic acids, glucitol (or sorbitol), maltose, cellobiose, lactose, sucrose, trehalose, and maltotriose. The term "polysaccharide" as used herein is intended to mean saccharide in its broad sense and to include substances widely occurring in nature such as alginic acid, .alpha.-cyclodextrin, and cellulose. The saccharide derivatives include reduced sugars, such as sugar alcohols represented by formula: HOCH₂(CHOH)_nCH₂OH, where n is an integer of 2 to 5), oxidized sugars, such as aldonic acids and uronic acids, amino acid, and thiosugars, with sugar alcohols being preferred. Examples of sugar alcohols are maltitol, sorbitol, and xylitol. The hyaluronic acid salt can be a commercially available 1% aqueous solution of sodium hyaluronate (molecular weight: 350,000). These solid wetting agents can be used either individually or as a mixture of two or more thereof.